

Message Text

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71

ORIGIN SS-30

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:FHMISCH:SS

APPROVED BY S/S-S:DWMILLER

EUR - MR. HARTMAN (DRAFT)

PM:FFLEMINGS (DRAFT)

DOD:CAPT. KURTH DRAFT)

C - MR. SONNENFELDT (DRAFT)

H:KJENKINS (SUBS)

NAVY:RADM-GROJEAN

EUR/SOV:JFMATLOCK

EUR/SOV:WJDYESS

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O 112305Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123800

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EXCHANGE OF US-SOVIET WARSHIP VISITS

REF: MOSCOW 8170

1. AN AIDE-MEMOIRE ALONG
THE FOLLOWING LINES SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE SOVIET
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: QUOTE: EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA INFORMS THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF THE USSR OF THE INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES
NAVY IN ARRANGING AN EXCHANGE OF NAVAL VISITS WITH THE
SOVIET NAVY. AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE IS SOUGHT FOR A VISIT
TO A SOVIET PORT BY A DESTROYER-TYPE VESSEL OF THE UNITED
STATES NAVY AND FOR A RETURN VISIT TO A UNITED STATES PORT
BY A SOVIET NAVAL VESSEL OF A SIMILAR TYPE. THE TIMING
OF THE VISITS AND THE PORTS OF CALL IN EACH COUNTRY WILL BE
AGREED UPON AFTER THE MINISTRY HAS INDICATED ITS AGREEMENT
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IN PRINCIPLE TO AN EXCHANGE OF SUCH VISITS. END QUOTE.

2. SINCE TIMING MAY BE A SENSITIVE ELEMENT IN AN EXCHANGE, AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ONLY IS SOUGHT AT THIS POINT. IF SOVIETS PRESS ON TIMING, EMBASSY MAY INDICATE INFORMALLY THAT US NAVY IS THINKING IN TERMS OF POSSIBLY LATE SUMMER, BUT SHOULD TAKE CARE THAT NO COMMITMENT IS IMPLIED. AS TO PORT OF CALL, EMBASSY MAY SAY INFORMALLY US NAVY PREFERS LENINGRAD, AND ASK FOR SOVIET PREFERENCE WITH RESPECT TO A US PORT.

YOU MAY INDICATE INFORMALLY THAT IF THE SOVIETS AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO SUCH AN EXCHANGE, THIS COULD APPROPRIATELY BE ANNOUNCED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE USSR. BROWN

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